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A
L E T T E R
TO THE
INHABITANTS
OF

St. DUNSTAN's in the WEST.

RELATING TO
Their late Remarkable Proceeding
With Regard to
The Reverend Mr. ROMAINÉ,
Their LECTURER.

WITH SOME REMARKS
On their refusing him their Pulpit,
AND THE
Great Increase of DISSENTERS and ME-
THODISTS, fairly stated.
Recommended to all Well-wishers of the CHURCH of
ENGLAND.

L O N D O N:

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A
L. E. R.

TO THE

INHABITANTS

OF

St. Dunstons in the West.

RELATING TO

Their late Remembrance Proceedings.

Which are

The Reverend Mr. Thomas A. L. L.

and Mr. J. B. L.

with some other persons

On their respective parts.

Of the Church of St. Dunstons in the West.

By the Rev. Mr. J. B. L.

Printed by J. B. L. at the Press of the Church of St. Dunstons in the West.



LETTER, etc.



HO is a wise man, and
 endowed with knowledge
 amongst you? Let him
 shew out of a good con-
 versation his works with
 meekness of wisdom.
 ¶ But if ye have bitter
 envying and strife in your hearts, glory
 not, and lie not against the truth.
 ¶ This wisdom descendeth not from a-
 bove, but is earthly, sensual, devilish.
 ¶ For where envying and strife is,
 there is confusion and every evil work.
 ¶ But the wisdom that is from above, is
 first pure, then peaceable, gentle, and easy
 to be intreated, full of mercy and good
 fruits, without partiality and without hy-
 pocrisy.

“ ¶ And the fruit of righteousness is
 “ sown in peace of them that make peace.”
James chap. iii. verses 13, 14, 15, 16, 17,
 18.

BUT upon seeing your church doors shut,
 and your worthy lecturer, *Mr. Romaine* re-
 fused the pulpit, it brought to my mind that
 part of Scripture, where Christ says, there
 were such as you, who “ entered not in
 “ yourselves, and them that were entering in
 “ ye hindred.” *Luke* xi. 52.

I THINK there is but little sign of peace,
 when the Gospel is opposed, and war de-
 clared at the Altar ; and are not these suffi-
 cient reasons to drive the people from the
 church, into the meetings, &c. How do we
 see and hear daily of new meetings building,
 and large congregations in them, and our
 churches almost empty ! Well may our cler-
 gy cry out, the church is in danger ! when
 such as you, and many of them are her ene-
 mies.

IN short, it is hard now to find a faithful
 shepherd, for instead of feeding the sheep,
 they fleece them : --- how rare is it to hear
 of a clergyman that visits his parishioners
 from house to house, recommending the love
 of God to them, warning them against evil
 practices, and intreating them to come to
 church. --- How many hundreds of families
 are there in this metropolis, who never go
 to church from one year's end to another,
 and

and seemingly live without God in the world, which is a great deal owing to the clergy. But, instead of these good old primitive proceedings, our clergy in these days are patterns for pride, and not for humility. They seldom or never visit their flock, except it be for their own interest, for whenever you see a minister go to a poor man's house, depend upon it, there is some election or collection relating to his own interest, and not the good of their poor souls, for it seems as if they did not care if they were all lost in the wilderness, if they can but get their tythes. So that it is greatly owing to the clergy, both in the pulpit and out, that the meeting houses, &c. are so full, and the churches so empty.

Now if I am right informed, the dissenting clergy visit their flock from house to house, and not any of them are suffered to absent themselves from the place of worship if they can prevail with them. --- And if you, the parish of St. *Dunstan's*, instead of ordering your watchmen to attend to keep Mr. *Romaine's* followers from making a disturbance in your church, if you had ordered them to keep the lewd abandoned women out of your streets at night, you would have acted a christian part, for of the one there was no danger, but of the other there is a great necessity.

As for Mr. *Romaine* he knows nothing of me, nor of my writing these lines, nor no

one else, till they went to the press; but I was grieved to hear of your proceedings against so worthy a minister: and what a scandal it is to the church of *England* in these days, that if a minister is faithful in discharging his trust, and preaches the real Gospel, and dont sympathize with mankind in a dead moral discourse, but is a true ambassador for Jesus Christ, he is called a *Methodist*; --- And it is the same with the laity; if a man is sober, and don't act the wicked part of the world, does not curse and swear, and if he reproves others for so doing, they look at him to see if he has a button to his hat, and if he has he is deemed to be a *Wesley* or a *Whitfield*. --- But, what is a greater scandal still, if we believe and act upon faith, agreeable to the articles of our church, we are deemed *Enthusiasts*; and, if I am right informed, it is for this, and only this, that you want to turn Mr. *Romaine* your worthy lecturer out of your church; and I suppose if the authors of our litany, articles, and homilies, had lived to these days, and had been the ministers of your parish, you would have served them the same.

BUT the misfortune is, you have got a little head religion, such as I had once; I thought I was very good, and very wise, and I belonged to the pure church of *England*, but I knew not one of her articles. I was out of this land, and had never heard Mr. *Romaine*, nor any of the *Methodists*, I was exposed to great danger of my life, and all of a sudden
I was

I was struck with the thoughts of eternity, I saw sin in its dismal colour, I was under strong convictions of sin, and God hath said the soul that sins shall surely die, "Therefore by the deeds of the law there shall no flesh be justified." *Rom. iii. 10.* I had but little peace, till I was able to see with the eyes of faith the blessed Lord Jesus Christ, who was able to save to the uttermost: "Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest." *Mat. xi. 28.* And shall this be called Enthusiasm!

Do we not pray for a peace which the world cannot give, and who can give us that peace but God? Now when the miserable sinner is brought home, and can see the wonderful love of God reconciled to him in Christ Jesus, I mean to see this spiritually, then is he enabled to cry, "Abba, Father," then will he cry out, "Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless his holy name; bless the Lord, O my soul, who forgiveth all thy sins, and healeth all thine iniquities." But shall we sin that grace may abound? God forbid! No; then out of love will he endeavour to do good works? I remember the time when my chief motive for doing good works was for fear of being damned, and I placed them for merit. But when the sinner is led by the blessed holy Spirit, and can truly behold a crucified Jesus, then he hates sin, and sees the evil of it, and the love of Christ constrains him to good works, acceptable to God, only in and through

through Jesus Christ. And happy, unspeakably happy it is, for us guilty, miserable beings, that we have such a mighty and glorious Saviour and Redeemer to look unto! through whose precious sacrifice and prevailing intercession, we may be reconciled to God's infinitely holy and ascended Majesty, and by whose powerful spirit and grace, we may be restored to his blessed image. With much less loss to us might the sun, moon, and stars be extinguished, than that our souls should be ignorant of, and uninfluenced by, this blessed "Sun of righteousness." *Mal. iv. 3.* whose saving mercy and grace is the light and life of this lower creation of God, and whose glory and excellence is the joy and wonder of the worlds on high.

ALL the infidelity and disaffection of ungodly minds, and the weakness of faith, defects of love, and disorder of affections, in sincere christians, are owing, in different degrees, to their ignorance of this glorious and divine Redeemer, the knowledge of whom is of the greatest necessity and advantage. --- The soul of man may be ignorant of ten thousand things, without any lessening of its real and substantial happiness, but all the promised blessings of God that pertain to life and godliness, are given unto us thro' the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. --- If mercy and peace be multiplied unto us, it is "through the knowledge of God and of Jesus Christ our Lord." *2 Pet. i. 2, 3.*
and

and it is the great duty of the christian religion, " to grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ." 2 *Pet.* iii. 18. He is of such absolute necessity to our salvation and happiness, that without him it is impossible we should attain unto it, we are all guilty condemned sinners by God's holy law, he is our great atonement and advocate, 1 *John* ii. 2. We are weak and enfeebled sinners by our fall, " he is the Lord in whom alone we have strength." *Isa.* xlv. 24. We are impure and defiled beings before God; he is Jesus our sanctifier, *Heb.* ii. 11. --- We are spiritual, dead, and insensible, he is a quickening Spirit, 1 *Cor.* xv. 45. --- We are tempted and oppressed creatures, he is the great Captain of our salvation, *Heb.* ii. 10. And all that flight and disregard this Great Redeemer, God himself has declared to be in a lost and perishing condition, under his present and awful curse, and sinking into everlasting perdition, *Mark* xvi. 16. *John* iii. 18, 36. 2 *Cor.* iv. 3, 4. --- When the true christian surveys his own righteousness, fastings, prayers, tears, repentings, &c. he can find no foundation for his soul to rest securely upon, by reason of the manifold defects and blemishes, that inseparably cleave unto him, but in the Lord Jesus Christ alone, 1 *Cor.* iii. 2. *Acts* iv. 12. He is convinced that the best of his duties cannot save him, and that the least of his sins may damn him; --- that his own righteousness is defiled; that his prayers need pardon, his repentance needs re-
 penting

penting of, his tears need washing in the blood of the Lamb, and his very holiness needs a more perfect righteousness to save him from condemnation, *Job* ix. 2, 33. ch. xxv. 4, 6.

DOUBTLESS man's heart and life on earth is fuller of sins in the view of the piercing eye of an infinite holy God, than the firmament of stars, or the furnace of sparks, *Job* xxii. 5. Who then can stand in judgment before God by virtue of his own obedience, "When he shall mark iniquity, surely none can stand." *Psal.* cxxx. 3. *Isa.* vi. 1, 5. But because the children of men want a perfect righteousness of their own, God hath assigned the completely glorious and unblemished righteousness of the Lord Jesus Christ to all that believe in him, which is infinitely better than their own, by which they are justified from guilt, in which they may for ever rejoice and appear with confidence before him, in life, in death, and at the great day of judgment, *Isa.* xlv. 23. ch. lxi. 10. *Phil.* iii. 9. And because they are naturally weak, and insufficient in themselves, in him they receive all spiritual life and strength, and every heavenly blessing which they need to make them wise, holy, and happy, *Eph.* i. 3, 8. *Rom.* viii. 29, 32.

LET every sinner then of the human race, for their soul's sake, be persuaded and encouraged to come to the merciful Lord and Redeemer of men, that they may obtain
ever-

everlasting life and happiness from him. There is every-thing in him to recommend him to your choice esteem, whether you consider his wonderful excellences or precious benefits, his glorious nature, or amazing grace. --- Oh ! Sirs, consider seriously, what could God your Saviour have done for you, and promised to you, to make you happy, which he has not done and promised ? He laid aside his robes of majesty and glory to cloath himself with your flesh ! He came from his royal throne above, and humbled himself to the death of the cross, to satisfy Divine Justice for your transgressions : and has brought life and immortal salvation to your doors. And will you not receive him ? He promises to give you all needful supplies of blessings for time and eternity ! *Psal.* lxxxiv. to protect you from the devil, and all your spiritual enemies, to save you from sin and hell, and bestow heaven and himself upon you. And will you yet refuse him, though you have no goodness or excellence to recommend you, though you are corrupt as *Sodom*, and deformed as hell, by lust and sin, yet if you are but truly and heartily willing to be now divorced from all your sinful lusts and vicious practices, and to receive Christ Jesus for your Sovereign Lord and only Saviour, he is now infinitely willing to embrace you, and engage himself to you for your everlasting happiness, *Hos.* ii. 19, 23. --- Nay, if through any depravity of your nature, you find any backwardness or

reluctance of mind to this blessed choice, he will even remove your prejudices, conquer your unwillingness, incline your heart to embrace him, and give you power to believe and repent, if you now seriously and diligently seek unto him. See *Psal.* cx. 3. *Jer.* l. 4, 5. *Acts* v. 31. *Eph.* ii. 8.

Oh ! BELIEVE it therefore to be your highest wisdom, your indispensable duty, your chief glory, your greatest happiness, your whole salvation, to yield yourselves intirely to the care and conduct of the Lord Jesus, to love his glorious person, submit to his gentle government, and trust in his saving power and abundant grace. There is an infinite satisfying fullness in Christ Jesus, suitable to all the wants, necessities, and desires, of perishing, immortal souls; in one crucified Jesus, you will find an infinite sufficiency of righteousness to cover all your sins, 1 *John* i. 7. Inexhaustible riches of goodness to supply all your wants, *Phil.* iv. 19. Abundant grace to subdue all your lusts, *Mat.* i. 21. Unsearchable wisdom to resolve all your doubts, 1 *Cor.* i. 30. Almighty power to vanquish all your spiritual enemies, *Colos.* ii. 2, 15. Sovereign virtue to heal all your soul's diseases, *Luke* v. 31. and unmeasurable fullness of grace and goodness, both to satisfy and save you, and that to the very uttermost, *Heb.* vii. 25.

He will bestow all the benefits upon you of every kind, relation, and character he bears to his people, if you truly believe in him, and rest upon him alone, as your whole salvation, he will be the bread of life to nourish your soul, *John vi. 37.* A physician to heal it, *Mat. ix. 12.* An advocate to plead for you before God, *1 John ii. 2.* A counsellor to advise you, *Isaiab ix. 6.* A captain to defend you, *Heb. ii. 10.* A king to rule, *Psal. ii. 2.* A teacher to instruct you, *Act. vii. 37.* and a priest to atone for you, *Heb. ii. 17, 18.*

He will be an husband to protect you, *2 Cor. xi. 2.* A father to provide for you, *Isai. ix. 6, 7.* A brother to relieve you, *John xx. 17.* A foundation to support you, *Isai. xxviii. 16.* A root to give you life, *Rev. xxii. 16.* A head to guide you, *Eph. i. 22.* A treasure to enrich you, *Eph. iii. 8.* A sun to enlighten and refresh you, *Mat. iv. 2.* A fountain to cleanse you, *Zec. xiii. 1.* A sanctuary to cover you, *Isai. viii. 4.* An anchor of hope to comfort and establish you, *Heb. vi. 18, 19.* and whatsoever else is necessary for your compleat salvation and happiness for both worlds. *Colos. ii. 9, 10.* having in him all fullness of wisdom, righteousness, sanctification, and redemption to bestow upon you, *1 Cor. i. 29, 31.* This is the great and infinite gift which God our Saviour, out of the unfearchable depth of his mercy and love doth most freely bestow upon

the poor and miserable, the accursed and perishing sinners of men even himself; and all his treasures of grace and goodness, *Isai. lv. 1, 7. ch. ix. 6, 7. Rom. viii. 28, 36.*

WHAT wells of salvation are here! And what blessed and everlasting foundations of joy and triumph to every one that truly believes in Jesus Christ our Lord! Oh! let not these consolations of God seem small unto you! let not these heavenly treasures be neglected and despised by you, which are incomparably more worth than all the kingdoms of the earth, and the glories of them: How can those escape double damnation who reject this great and only salvation; who slight the eternal Son of God; who count his precious blood and sacrifice a common thing, and will not have this great and glorious Redeemer to reign over them, *Luke xix. 14. John iii. 12, 36. Heb. x. 28.* What pure and unmixed, what unspeakable and eternal vengeance is reserved for the despisers and rejecters of Christ Jesus! the great condemnation is for those who might have the Lord Jesus Christ, and all his saving benefits, and would not. Jews and pagans, yea devils themselves, will rise up in judgment against such in the great day and condemn them, *Mat. xxiii. 13, 14.*

If you are concerned to know how you shall become interested in this great Redeemer and his salvation, you have an answer

swer to this inquiry from God's own word,
 " Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and
 " thou shalt be saved." *Acts* xvi. 31. Re-
 nounce all dependance upon your own wis-
 dom, power, and goodness, cordially and
 entirely trusting in him for all salvation;
 resigning yourself to his wise and gracious
 authority and government, seek his favour
 and love as your chief happiness, and he
 will pardon your manifold offences, heal
 your sinful nature, and bless you in the
 abundance of his grace and mercy, with
 every needful good, *1 Cor.* iii. 21. *Acts* iv.
 12. In order to which;

1st. BE willing and desirous to know the
 worst of your own sinfulness, misery, and
 danger, that you may have an affecting
 sense of the great suitableness and necessity
 of the Lord Jesus in his saving characters,
Mat. xi. 28. *Rev.* iii. 17.

2dly, SERIOUSLY and diligently read
 the Gospel of Christ, in which his glories
 and excellencies are made known unto you,
Job v. and xxxix. *2 Cor.* iv. 4. 6.

3dly. BE earnestly of God his Holy Spi-
 rit, to give an understanding in him that is
 true, even in his Son Jesus Christ, who is
 the true God and eternal life, *1 John* v. 20.
 and that he may dispose your hearts to re-
 ceive him as God's salvation, believe it that
 saving knowledge and faith is the gift of God
 only,

only, *Eph.* ii. 8. *Colos.* ii. 12. which the word of God and prayer is the appointed means to obtain, *Prov.* ii. 3, 6. *Rom.* x. 17.

LET every soul admire and adore the unsearchable wisdom and transcendent mercy of God, in providing such a Saviour for the sinners of men, so suitable in every respect to their fallen, guilty, and helpless state and condition. Oh! infinite display of divine love and goodness! Who can contemplate the height and depth, the length and breadth thereof, without feeling all the tender affections of his nature moved, his heart overflowing with love and gratitude to his God and Redeemer and his soul bowing down in deep humility and cordial subjection to God in the affecting sense of the greatness of this unsought for unmerited grace and salvation! How can the fallen guilty sons of men help congratulating each other for these glad tidings of great joy which is to all people, in that there is a Saviour born unto us, which is Christ the Lord, and joining with the heavenly hosts in praising God, and saying, Glory to God in the Highest, for this is his good will to men, *Luke* ii. 10, 14.

How desperately stupid, blind, and foolish, has sin rendered the minds of men, that they can receive the messages of this astonishing salvation with cold and frozen hearts, and reluctant wills! Oh, take heed, lest that come upon any of you, which is written in
the

the Sacred Volume, " Behold, ye despisers,
 " and wonder, and perish: " *AA*. xiii. 41.
 lest God in his wrath swear concerning you,
 Ye shall never enter into my rest because of
 your unbelief, *Heb.* iv. 1, 3. Let every true
 christian infinitely prize and delight in the
 glorious excellencies of his great Redeemer,
 and make perpetual use of him in all his
 blessed characters. Oh ! labour every day
 more and more to understand the incon-
 ceivable excellencies and precious benefits
 that are in Christ Jesus. Pray earnestly that
 God would give you the Spirit of wisdom
 and understanding in the knowledge of him,
 that you may know what are the riches of
 his glories, and what the hopes of your spi-
 ritual calling in him, *Eph.* i. 17, 19. and
 make more daily constant use of him in all
 the wonderful discoveries he has made of his
 own inconceivable grace and goodness.

THIS is the way to glorify God indeed,
 to live in heavenly peace and holiness on
 earth, and be prepared to dwell with him
 for ever above ; certainly the reason why
 true christians take no more comfort and
 delight in the Lord Jesus Christ is from their
 remaining deplorable ignorance of him, or
 some sensual base affection or other, which
 distempers and endangers their precious im-
 mortal souls, and obstructs their peace and
 happiness in him ; or because they so sel-
 dom apply to him by faith for those hea-
 venly blessings which he is most free and
 ready

ready to dispense, *Isai.* xlv. 22, 25. lv. 1, 3. Oh, meditate on his unspeakable excellencies and admirable mercies, until your hearts are filled with reverence, wonder, and love; he is "the Lord of glory." *1 Cor.* ii. 8. "The Lord of Hosts," *Isai.* vi. 3, 9. John xiv. 41. "Emmanuel, or God with us," *Mat.* i. 23. The great God and our Saviour, *2 Pet.* i. 1. Jehovah our righteousness, *Jer.* xxiii. 6. God over all, blessed for ever, *Rom.* ix. 5. "The mighty God, the everlasting Father," *Isai.* ix. 6. Possessing all the fullness of God substantially, *Colos.* ii. 9. Being equal with God in nature, *Phil.* ii. 6. Eternal, *Micah* v. 2. Unchangeable, *Heb.* xiii. 8. Omniscient, *Rev.* ii. 18, 23. Almighty *Rev.* i. 8, 13. To whom all possible homage and worship in heaven and earth is to be paid, *John* v. 23. *Rev.* v. 11, 14. Being the first cause, and highest end of all things, by whom, and for whom they were created, *Colos.* i. 16. John i. 2. The brightness of his Father's glory, and the express image of his person, *Heb.* i. 3. Possessing at once all the excellencies of both natures, God and man, *John* i. 5. Having all dominion in heaven and earth committed unto him, *Mat.* xxviii. 18. Governing all creatures by his power and wisdom, *Isai.* ix. 7. *Eph.* i. 22. and being the great and appointed judge of the quick and dead in the last day, *Acts* xvii. 31. *Rom.* xiv. 10. In whom are unfathomable riches of glory and goodness, as the ocean hath more waters than all the rivers of the

the earth, and one sun more light than all the luminaries of heaven, so there is in one Lord Jesus Christ, more glory and excellency than in all angels, than in all nations, in all delights, or whatsoever is lovely in heaven and earth; all created excellencies derive their being from him, depend continually upon him, and are unsatisfying without him, *Colos. i. 15, 19. Psal. lxxiii. 25, 26.*

HE is more than all temporal good, as the light of the sun is more than that of a candle; he is more than all spiritual blessings, as the fountain is more than the streams; he is more than all heavenly riches as the tree is more than the fruit; there are those ravishing excellencies in his Divine Person that are unspeakable beyond salvation itself; it is the very heaven of happiness to be with him where he is, to behold his glory, *John xvii. 24.* A little knowledge of his transcendent loveliness gives to the admiring, believing mind, unspeakable joy and lasting pleasures, *1 Pet. i. 8.*

WERE the deplorable mists of sinful ignorance and darkness, removed from the minds of men, they could not but be amazed at, and enamoured with his glorious and eternal excellencies, for they are infinite and unsearchable, *Eph. iii. 8.* And then he is not only possessed of infinite amiableness, and excellence in himself, but

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he

he is infinitely diffusive of goodness and happiness to others; there are in his love and goodness, heights and depths, lengths and breadths, which surpass all knowledge, *Eph.* xxxi. 18, 19. He has all the fullness of God dwelling in him, and from his fullness all that embrace him receive grace for grace, *John* i. 16. All the treasures of his mercy and love, his righteousness and salvation, life and pardon, peace and glory, are open to every humble, returning, repentant sinner. Riches and honour are with him, yea, durable riches and righteousness, and he causes those that love him to inherit substance, *Prov.* viii. 18, 21.

HAPPY, beyond expression happy, are all those who are interested in him, and united to him by humble faith and holy love! They are pardoned and reconciled to God, *Rom.* v. 1. Become his dear children, *John* i. 12. Have his Spirit dwelling in them *Gal.* iii. 14. and enjoy liberty of access unto him at all times, *Heb.* x. 19, 22. Are the special care and charge of his kind and tender providence, *1 Pet.* iii. 12. Have the promises of all needful good in this life, *Mat.* vi. 30, 33. ch. vii. 11. and are the heirs of everlasting life and glory, in the world to come, *John* iii. 14, 16. *Rom.* viii. 17. *Gal.* iii. 26, 29. God their Saviour, in all the riches of his goodness, in all his special relations, is theirs, *2 Cor.* vi. 18. They are entitled to all the blessed promises of his word,

word, 2 *Pet.* i. 4. which they may humbly and assuredly claim from him by faith and prayer, according to their needs, *John* xv. 7. 1 *John* v. 14. In him they have a most compassionate Redeemer, the most constant friend, the most generous benefactor, and a powerful protector.

Oh that an infinite love and ever-loving Jesus, might be perpetually near to our very hearts, and kindle such flames of love in our breasts, as may for ever be breaking forth in our lips and in our lives in all holy zeal, and affectionate duty and worship, to the praise and glory of his excellence and grace,
 “ That the name of our Lord Jesus Christ
 “ may be glorified in you, and ye in him,
 “ according to the grace of our God, and
 “ the Lord Jesus Christ.” 2 *Thef.* i. 12. *Colos.* i. 10.

Ever upwards may we move,
 Wafted on the wings of love
 Looking when our Lord shall come,
 Longing, gasping after home.
 There may we with thee remain,
 Partakers of thine endless reign,
 There thy face unclouded see,
 Find our heav'n of heav'ns in thee.

WHAT supreme and entire affection then is due from every christian, to his Lord and Saviour Christ ! Is Jesus Christ so glorious in his nature, and excellent in his characters as a Redeemer, hath he done and suffered so much for your salvation and happiness ? Then why do you turn your worthy lecturer out of your church, and refuse to hear him who so earnestly recommends his love to you ? I wonder you do not tremble at these words, where Christ says, “ And whosoever shall not receive you, nor hear your words : when ye depart out of that house, or city, shake off the dust of your feet. Verily, I say unto you, It shall be more tolerable for the land of Sodom and Gomorrha in the day of judgment, than for that city.” *Mat. x. 14, 15.*

HAIL the day that sees him rise,
Ravish'd from our wishful eyes ;
Christ a while to mortals giv'n,
Re-ascends his native heaven.

There the pompous triumph waits
Lift your heads, eternal gates,
Wide unfold the radiant scene,
Take the King of Glory in.

Circled

Circled round with angel powers,

Their triumphant Lord and ours,

Conqueror o'er death, hell, fin,

Take the King of Glory in,

Him though highest heaven receives,

Still he loves the earth he leaves,

Though returning to his Throne,

Still he calls mankind his own,

See he lifts his hands above,

See he shews the prints of love.

Hark ! his gracious lips bestow

Blessing on his church below.

Still for us he interceeds,

Prevalent his death he pleads,

Next himself prepares our place,

Harbinger of human race.

“ Wherefore laying aside all malice, and
 “ all guile, and hypocrisies, and envies, and
 “ all evil-speakings. As new-born babes
 “ desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye
 “ may grow thereby : If so be ye have tasted
 “ that the Lord is gracious.” 1 *Pet.* ii. 1, 2,

3. And

3. And indeed you have had the blessed Gospel preached unto you by a sincere minister of Christ, who, I believe, longs for your souls to be eternally happy, and if you have had large congregations, and have been a little crouded in your church, I think it is a blessed sight to see; and if you have been made happy, and experienced the love of God to your soul, I am sure you would love to see others happy also. Christ says, "If you love me, keep my commandment: and this my commandment, That ye love one another:" and see what affection the primitive christians bare unto their Lord and Saviour: "They loved not their lives unto the death for his sake," *Rev. xii. 11.* rejoiced that they were counted worthy to suffer shame for his name, *Acts v. 41.* And as Jesus hath done and suffered for us, the more dear he should be unto us: Who can conceive the glories of his person, the greatness of his sufferings! See and consider also the great evil of sin.

It was sin that crucified the Lord of glory, shed his most precious blood, and caused all his sharp sorrows, and bitter sufferings; it was to satisfy the Divine Justice for sin, that the Almighty God sheathed the sword of his infinite justice into the very soul of him who undertook to be our surety, *Matt. xxvi. 38, 39. Zech. viii. 17.* It was this that caused his bitter complaint and cry out, "My God, my God, Why hast thou forsaken
" faken

“ faken me ? ” *Mark* xv. 34. It was unbelief that pierced his heart ; “ Is it nothing to you, all ye that pass by ? Behold and see, if there be any sorrow like unto my sorrow, which is done unto me, wherewith the Lord hath afflicted me, in the day of his fierce anger.” *Lam.* i. 12.

You see what hatred God has to sin, and what love the blessed Jesus bears to us. “ Look unto me, and be ye saved, all ye ends of the earth.” *Isai.* xlv. 22. “ Verily, verily, I say unto you, whatsoever ye shall ask the Father in my name he will give it you.” *John* xvi. 23. “ Ask, and it shall be given you ; seek, and ye shall find ; knock, and it shall be opened unto you.” *Matt.* vii. 7. “ I am the door, by me if any man enter in, he shall be saved.” *John* x. 9. “ Verily, verily, I say unto you he that believeth on me hath everlasting life.” *John* vi. 47. “ And this is the will of him that sent me, That every one which seeth the Son, and believeth on him, may have everlasting life, and I will raise him up at the last day.” *John* vi. 40. He that believeth on me shall be saved, and he that believeth not, shall be damned.

Now you see what miserable lost creatures we are, without an interest in the blessed Jesus ; and shall it be reckoned Enthusiasm, if we see our necessity of an interest in the Lord Jesus Christ ? Shall the minister
that

that preaches it to us be turned out of the church? Scandalous to a christian land! Oh! rather pray that the Lord would send out more labourers into the harvest.

LONG have we fet beneath the found,
Of thy salvation, Lord,
But still how weak our faith is found,
And knowledge of thy word!

Oft we frequent thy holy place,
Yet hear almost in vain;
How smal! a portion of thy grace,
Do our false hearts retain!

Great God! thy sov'reign aid impart
To give thy word success,
Write thy salvation on our hearts,
And make us learn thy grace.

I WOULD not have you think, that I have any malice or vain-glory, in writing these things; God forbid I should ever slumber or sleep with malice in my heart, and as for vain-glory, I have nothing to glory of, save the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ; I am sensible of my infirmity, and I hope God will keep me humble; and
from

from a self-righteous Spirit, Good God, deliver me ! Nothing is more destructive to the soul of man, and contrary to the glory of God's infinite wisdom and free mercy in his salvation by Jesus Christ, than a self-righteous spirit; I mean such as expect heaven as the fruits of their own righteousness. Christ himself tells us, that publicans and harlots do enter into the kingdom of heaven before such. *Matt.* xxi. 31, 32. *Luke* xviii, 19, 24.

PRAY read the 22d chapter of St. *Matthew's* Gospel, and there you will see the necessity of the Wedding-Garment, which is Christ's righteousness to be imputed to us at the last day.

AND now I beseech you, [the inhabitants of St. *Dunstan's*] do not oppose that faithful minister, whose sole interest is for the good of your souls.

AND, " Now the God of peace that
 " brought again from the dead our Lord
 " Jesus, that great shepherd of the sheep,
 " through the blood of the everlasting co-
 " venant, make you perfect in every good
 " work to do his will, working in you that
 " which is well-pleasing in his sight, thro'
 " Jesus Christ; to whom be glory for ever
 " and ever. Amen." *Hebrews* xiii. 20,
 21.

" From

“ From all blindnes of heart, from
“ pride, vain-glory, and hypocrify, from
“ envy, hatred, and malice, and all un-
“ charitableness ; Good Lord, deliver us.”

THIS is what we pray for at church,
and may God fulfill it in you and me :
Even so Lord Jesus, Amen.

A LAYMAN of the Church of ENGLAND.



F I N I S.